

TTERS IN FRANCE

News Cabled From the Soudan.

Touaregs Completely Routed—American Artists—Notes.

Paris, April 30.—At this moment is nothing new in French politics.

The people begin to look for next presidential election, and by eight or nine names are added by different politicians. President Carnot has not yet said anything to intimate a desire to obtain a second term, or to retire to private life. His health, which was poor for some time, is now, and it is hoped by many will be able to fill the presidency of a republic for a second term of years.

French exhibitors of the Chicago fair have met lately in under the chairmanship of Mr. Say, to thank Mr. Camille D'Almeida, their commissary general, for his devotion to their interests and rights, and for the way with which he has defended them as well as for his efforts and success in rendering effective the action of the French to do by their artistic concours at fair both to themselves and to sister republic of North America.

The chairman, Mr. Say, pronounced a brilliant speech in thanking Mr. Krantz, as a token of gratitude in the name of the exhibitors, a perfect marble duplicate of the famous statue of Diana, which was exhibited at Chicago, and which is a masterpiece of the highest grade.

Mr. Say made, with deep emotion, a poignant answer. Among other interesting sentences he said: "Be it that the remembrance of French section at Chicago will be deeply engraved in the minds of the most intelligent portion of that intelligent American nation. I am satisfied that a great deal to me and to us will result from our presence and excellent exhibition at Chicago."

The governor of Soudan carried good news from Timbuctoo. French troops there have completely cleaned out the rascally tribe of Tuaregs that, in January last, had killed a small French officer of Soudanese blacks commanded by Lieutenant Bonnier. The last encounter the French completely routed these robbers and murderers of Central Africa, taking all their cattle, flocks, camels, horses, killing a great number of them; for, before giving way, fanaticism and bravery caused them to fight desperately. Timbuctoo will be free of these raids if their place is not taken by another tribe of the same Touaregs, coming suddenly from the north of the wilderness.

A great artistic event has taken place. It was the first representation at the Opera-Comique, of the great work of the Italian maestro, Verdi, his comic opera Falstaff. It had an immense success and the actor was called before the curtain a number of times and enthusiastically applauded. It was a great triumph for him. Mr. Spuller, the master of fine arts, the old and late friend of Gambetta, presented Verdi with the grand cross of the Legion of Honor, which is a high distinction. A reporter viewed Verdi at his hotel, and maestro said to him: "I am really delighted and I never shall forget the grand reception given me by you, the small as well as the great of this artistic people, since I have been in Paris. I do not know why I am so greatly pleased at their gracious reception and pathetic applause, but I can tell you that never and no where have I been better treated than I am by you."

The illustrious Italian maestro paid a visit to his old friend, French maestro, Ambroise Thomas, who was sick in bed. The two of the Trovatore and the two of Mignon kissed each other and exchanged felicitations, like Verdi, Thomas has enjoyed

great success. "To you, my dear Thomas," said Verdi, "I have to present my earnest congratulations on the occasion of the 1,000th representation of your great work." They are of the same age, both octogenarians.

American artists living and working in Paris will accomplish this year notable success in the Salon and in the Champ de Mars exhibitions. Several of them are highly appreciated in artistic circles. The Champ de Mars opened on the 21st of April. Two works in it are considered as being of superior merit, one of them a portrait of Count de Montesquieu, by Mr. Whistler, the American painter. It is admirable say art critics unanimously. American artists who have taken or completed their artistic education in Paris schools and studios are reflecting great honor on their country, which, however, thinks very little of, and does about nothing for them, they say, America being governed by politicians who do not understand and care nothing for art.

Very curious sects are springing up all the time in different parts of the world, each more fanatical and absurd than the other. Just now there is the sect of the Luciferians, which, being born in Switzerland, has already penetrated the eastern provinces of France. Their faith consists in the belief that there was a great mistake in the old creeds; that it is Lucifer who is the real, all-powerful God, and the Christian God who is the real devil. They are very pious and fanatical in that absurd faith, and their religious services to Lucifer consist of a very curious and grotesque ritual, altogether sacrilegious in the eyes of Catholics, for they use the consecrated wafers they steal in many unlawful as well as sacrilegious ways. They never, however, steal gold or silver or other valuables, but only the consecrated wafers. A number of detectives are detailed to watch and catch them.

A Great religious service has taken place in the cathedral of Notre-Dame, in honor of Joan of Arc, the Archbishop of Paris officiating. All the highest officials, as well as the aristocratic, intellectual and patriotic circles were in attendance. Among foreign ambassadors there were those of Russia and Austria with all their personnel.

The public credit in France seems to maintain itself pretty well, and money seems to be plentiful and "easy" enough, for the last loan of the city of Paris of two hundred millions francs was covered eighty-eight times over! This represents a sum of eighteen thousand million francs, or \$3,300,000,000. For a capital of a country which is not as large as the state of Texas, that seems wonderful. The great concern of the French about art does not appear to injure their financial capacity. Rather the reverse.

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